

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, Internationally-known artist Bob "Daddy-O" Wade's work has made important breakthroughs in the art world and has extended the barriers of how people perceive the medium of photography; and

WHEREAS, Born in Austin – where he now resides – in 1943, Wade received his BFA from the University of Texas in Austin and an MA from the University of California in Berkeley. He is the recipient of three grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and has been included in Biennial exhibitions in Paris, New Orleans and the prestigious Whitney Museum of American Art in New York; and

WHEREAS, Works by Bob Wade are included in the collections of the Menil Collection, the Houston Museum of Art, the Austin Museum of Art, the Chase Manhattan Bank, and AT&T. A site-specific sculptural work by Wade was installed for the 20th annual Abilene Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition; and

WHEREAS, Wade has been called a "pioneer of Texas Funk and connoisseur of Southwestern kitsch," by the Fort Worth Star Telegram and a "legendary free spirit" who is "larger than life," by The Chicago Tribune; and

WHEREAS, "The Giant Saxophone" (65-70 feet) sculpture is made from a random mix of materials including a Volkswagen Beetle and a surfboard; and

WHEREAS, Originally erected in 1993 in Houston on Richmond Avenue as a signature piece for a Houston night club; and

WHEREAS, Pecan Street Owners Association has offered to move and refurbish the Sax Sculpture from Houston to E. 6th Street in Austin; and

WHEREAS, This donation to the City of Austin is from its private Houston owner, who is redeveloping land that is home to the sculpture; and

WHEREAS, Pecan Street Owners Association is sponsoring the project and raising money to deconstruct, transport, refurbish and install the public artwork; and

WHEREAS, East 6th Street is in the center of Austin's visitors industry and is host to some 10,000 patrons on any given weekend, and many times that for special-events, such as SXSW; and

WHEREAS, The Giant Saxophone Sculpture would be visible from I-35 to millions of drivers and act as a destination point for the East 6th Street entertainment area; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

That the City Council directs the City Manager to negotiate and execute a contract to accept a gift from Stuart Kensinger of the "Giant Saxophone" artwork by artist Bob Wade contingent upon the Pecan Street Owner's Association transporting, refurbishing and erecting the art at a location mutually agreed upon between the City Manager and the Pecan Street Owner's Association near E. 6th and Waller Creek.

ADOPTED: _____, 2007

ATTEST: _____

Shirley A. Gentry
City Clerk